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## NEW BRITISH DRIVE SEEMINGLY PLACES LENS IN JEOPARDY

Additional Progress Made on Northern End of Battle Line.  
ADVANCE ALSO IS ON BOTH SIDES OF SCARPE RIVER  
Important German Positions Captured at Various Points by Haig's Men.  
RENEWAL OF AERIAL ACTIVITY  
Teutons Apparently Preparing for Long-Expected Move on Russian Capital.

(By Associated Press.)  
Again the British have begun a period of intensive fighting from the region of Lens southward to the Havincourt wood, and, according to the London War Office, have been successful at various points in capturing important German positions. In addition, more than 1,200 Germans were made prisoner in the first day's fighting in the new offensive.  
Both north and south of the Scarpe River, the British have materially advanced at several points toward Douai. North of the river, the village of Gavrelle and positions two and a half miles long south of the village were captured, while south of the stream they took the line of the Germans on a wide front south and east of Monchy-lez-Preaux, and captured the villages of Gavrelle and Guemappe.

Further to the south, the entire village of Trescault and the greater part of the Havincourt wood are in the hands of General Haig's forces. On the northern end of the battle line, additional progress has been made southward of Lens, seemingly placing that important town in great jeopardy.  
BERLIN REPORTS HEAVY CASUALTIES FOR BRITISH  
The latest Berlin official communication dealing with the fighting on Monday says the new British offensive on the Arras front broke down with heavy casualties. Berlin admits the penetration of German trenches on a front of 200 yards northwest of Lens, but says the British later were expelled from them in a counterattack.

Northeast of Soissons, between the Aisne and the Chemin-des-Dames, the French have further advanced their line, but elsewhere on the front held by the French artillery duels have predominated.  
Sunday night the Germans tried, but without success, to penetrate French positions, notably east of Craonne, in the Champagne, near St. Mihiel and in the Vosges Mountains.  
A return of good weather to the western front has brought about a renewal of aerial activity and numerous battles in the air. A British airplane is believed to have been destroyed over the Strait of Dover by a hostile air-ship, with the loss of its entire crew. Sunday, French airmen in aerial engagements shot down six enemy airplanes. A similar number fell prey to British aviators, while fifteen others were driven down out of control. Anti-aircraft guns disposed of another German airplane and seven kite balloons.

Berlin reports that German airmen forced down eleven enemy machines, and destroyed four captive balloons. The British War Office admits that seven British airplanes failed to return to their base after forays.  
HEAVY ARTILLERY DUELS IN SEVERAL SECTIONS  
Heavy artillery duels are taking place in the region of Lake Dolan and in the Cerna River bend sector of the Macedonian front.

The Germans evidently are preparing for the drive on Petrograd that has been expected in the Russian capital. Warships conveying transports are reported unofficially to have left Libau, on the Baltic Sea, for an unknown destination, and, meanwhile, the Germans have renewed their activity on the northern part of the Russian front in the Aa River region.

The British troops are fighting against the Turks six miles from Samarra, on the right bank of the Tigris River, in Mesopotamia, having previously forced the Ottomans to evacuate Izlatibah. There has been a renewal of activity on the part of the Kurds against the Russians in Persia, but details are lacking as to the full extent of it.

FRENCH GUNS PREVENT ATTACK BY GERMANS  
(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, April 23.—Heavy artillery fighting continued along the front of the French offensive, the War Office announces. East of Craonne the Germans, after a fierce bombardment, grouped detachments for an attack. French guns replied effectively, and prevented the attack.

The statement follows:  
"There was very active artillery fighting last night south of St. Quentin and between Soissons and Rheims. East of Craonne, a very violent German bombardment was followed by preparations to attack. Our batteries replied effectively, and the enemy was not able to launch the attack."  
"In the Champagne, the Germans at 6 o'clock yesterday evening directed a strong attack against the salient northeast of Mont Haut. It was broken up by our artillery and machine-gun fire. The enemy renewed his efforts during the night on the ridges which we hold before Montvillers. The fighting was very spirited at some points, resulting everywhere to our advantage."  
"East of St. Mihiel and in the Woëvre we repulsed two surprise attacks made (Continued on Second Page.)"

## Wonders If President Can Beat Him at Golf

WASHINGTON, April 23.—With all the expressions of friendship of to-day, intense rivalry sprang up to-night between President Wilson and Foreign Minister Balfour, of Great Britain.  
Some time morning before the end of the week may find the President and Mr. Balfour on the golf links here earnestly contending for possession of the international cup for government chieftains.  
The first move toward a contest was taken late to-day. Mr. Balfour remarked to Secretary of State Lansing that he was very fond of playing golf. Secretary Lansing reminded the visitor that President Wilson also had adopted golf as about his only form of sport.  
"Well, it is hardly becoming for me to suggest a game with our President, but I wonder if he can play better than I," Mr. Balfour is reported to have replied.

## MILITANT PREACHER THRILLS THEATER CROWD

Rev. William E. Thompson, at Womanhood Play, Speaks for Enlistment.

VIRGINIA IS LAGGING BEHIND  
His Plea Is Seconded by Dramatic Scenes of Great Photo Drama of Preparedness and by Presence of Governor Stuart and Miss Lee.

Flanked on one side by a daughter of General Robert E. Lee and on the other by a nephew of General J. E. B. Stuart, Rev. William E. Thompson, D. D., pastor of Park Place Methodist Church, stood in a box in the Bijou Theater last night and pleaded with those brilliant Confederate leaders to save Virginia's proud name by promptly supplying its quota of men for Uncle Sam's land and sea forces—particularly the latter. The stirring address took place during an intermission at the performance of "Womanhood," and drew home the latent points of that pictorial appeal to patriotism.

A capacity audience was present at the night performance, and among the most interested spectators were Miss Mary Custis Lee and Governor Henry Carter Stuart. The theater was decked with American flags, and the strains of martial music soon had the audience keyed to a high pitch of patriotism. The vivid battle scenes on land and sea were heightened by a crash and roar, and were made even more realistic by a smell of burning powder, the noise and smell coming from behind the white screen whereupon the dramatization of America's suppression of the thinly veiled "Prussianism" was flashed for nearly two hours.

THEME IS HIGHLY PATRIOTIC  
"Womanhood" is frankly preparedness propaganda. The plot is disjointed, but the theme is highly patriotic, and the very crudeness of it all heightens the whole effect. Interest from the start to the finish never lags, as one melodramatic scene follows the other from beginning to end. Particularly effective are the "leaders" or descriptive parts. The use of the army and navy, military movements during the recent mobilization of the National Guard, parades in big cities and other happenings are cleverly done. The naval scenes, with the actual firing of the big guns and the launching of a torpedo, were enough to stir any audience to a sense of the realities of warfare, had the now familiar battle scenes been eliminated.

But even more striking than the picture was the speaking of Dr. Thompson. This Methodist minister, himself a naval reserve officer, who has worked energetically to secure recruits for the United States Navy, did his most effective speaking last night. It would be hard to conceive of a man failing to see his duty clearly after such a talk.

"Never have I heard such a strong appeal before," Graham H. Hobson, member of the Administrative Board, and former member of the House of Delegates, stated after the performance. "I am heartily in favor of having the Bijou Theater bought out for the rest of the week and the picture being shown without cost, provided such speakers could talk during the intermissions. Let Dr. Thompson speak at each performance and open a recruiting office on the spot, and Virginians would not need to be reminded further of their duty."

APPEALS TO MEN TO ENLIST AND TO WOMEN TO SACRIFICE  
The talk was made during the intermission, and it is safe to say that there have been few theatrical performances in this city when so few left their seats. The appeal was not only to men to do their duty and enlist, but to the women to make sacrifices in the hour of need.

"It is difficult for me to speak after witnessing such stirring pictures," Dr. Thompson said. "It is also embarrassing for me to undertake to speak in the presence of our Governor, and my embarrassment is not abated by the fact that I am appealing to Virginians men and to Virginia women in the presence of a descendant of the brightest link in the chain of American warriors, Robert E. Lee."  
"But I cannot in this critical hour of the world's history, turn a deaf ear to a challenge to my own country, or, with civilization, refuse to speak in defense of my native State to give themselves to the service of humanity. I appeal to women also to consecrate themselves, to give their boys to this service."  
"It was part of Germany's original (Continued on Second Page.)"

## JOHN A. LAMB DIES FROM PISTOL SHOT

Well-Known Attorney Passes Away at Stuart Circle Hospital.

ACCIDENTAL, SAYS CORONER  
Studied Law in Office of Federal Judge Waddill, and Was Widely Known.

John A. Lamb, forty-two years old, a well-known attorney of Richmond and a son of Captain John Lamb, for sixteen years Congressman from this district, died yesterday afternoon at 2:10 o'clock at the Stuart Circle Hospital from a pistol shot wound, without regaining consciousness. Coroner J. M. Whitfield, who conducted an investigation, held that he came to his death as a result of a pistol shot wound, apparently accidentally inflicted, and deemed an inquest unnecessary.

The funeral will be conducted tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock from the home, 102 North Fifth Street, by Rev. Russell Cecil, D. D., pastor of the Second Baptist Church. The interment will be private, and will be made in Hollywood Cemetery.  
Mr. Lamb is survived by his wife and three children, Edwin Blair, Virginia S., and Martha Wade Lamb, and his father, Captain John Lamb.

Detective Sergeant John Wiley, of headquarters, conducted an investigation into the shooting yesterday afternoon, but has made no report to the Detective Bureau. Mr. Lamb's family was seated at the breakfast table yesterday morning when they were thrown into a panic by the sound of the pistol shot. A moment later they heard his body fall to the floor.

LIVING ON FLOOR IN UNCONSCIOUS CONDITION  
Hugh Woolfolk, a brother-in-law, rushed to Mr. Lamb's bedroom, and found the lawyer lying on the floor in an unconscious condition, with blood trickling from a wound just behind his right ear. The pistol was found lying near the man's right hand. Mr. Lamb was only partly dressed at the time. He was hastily removed from his home to Stuart Circle Hospital, and Dr. B. A. Ford, the family physician, was summoned.

Physicians were unable to determine at once his condition, and an X-ray photograph was made shortly before noon to locate the bullet. No operation was performed, and Mr. Lamb died a short time later. He was attended by Drs. Lewis C. Boshier, A. L. Gray and B. A. Ford. Members of the family stated last night that they believed the shooting to have been clearly accidental.

Brockenbrough Lamb, a cousin, and the dead man's law partner, said that he had been seriously ill in January and February, but had responded to the treatment administered by his family physician, and had completely recovered. He returned to his office about a month ago, and since that time had been busily engaged in his practice.

OF JUDGE WADDILL  
Mr. Lamb was born in August, 1875, in Charles City County, the son of Captain John Lamb and Mrs. Lamb, who was Miss Martha Wade before her marriage. He received his early education in local schools and studied law at Richmond College, from which he graduated with honors. Mr. Lamb read law for some time in the office of Federal Judge Edmund Waddill, of this city, and received much of his early training from this distinguished jurist.

While Mr. Lamb had never held public office, he was active in Richmond and State politics, having made his first campaign speech in 1898 during the first campaign of William Jennings Bryan. He has figured in practically every campaign since that time. His legal practice was confined largely to the civil courts, and his talent won him an enviable reputation.

## MAY CALL SPANNELL CASE

Decision as to Time of Trial of Butler's Slayer Will Be Made To-Day.

(By Associated Press.)  
COLEMAN, TEX., April 23.—Criminal Court here recessed late to-day until tomorrow without having determined whether the case of Leroy J. Spannell, charged with the killing of Lieutenant-Colonel M. C. Butler, of Alpine, Tex., last July, would proceed or be continued until the next court term. The prosecuting attorney announced when the case was called that he could not proceed with the trial unless Mrs. B. Jenkins, of El Paso, is present as a witness. He expects word as to Mrs. Jenkins' whereabouts by tomorrow.

Spannell was acquitted at a previous trial of the killing of his wife, Mrs. Crystal Holland Spannell, who was shot to death at the same time Butler was shot and killed while riding in Spannell's automobile.

## CLEMONS TO CO-OPERATE

Data Regarding All Former Students to Be Sent to Council on National Defense.

(By Associated Press.)  
"CLEMONS, S. C., April 23.—Clemson College is preparing to co-operate with the Council on National Defense by furnishing that organization with names, training and experience of all former students of the institution. A circular letter has been issued to graduates by President Riggs, requesting that they furnish to the college authorities information showing their fitness for work in any line. This data will be placed in the hands of the Council of National Defense."

To President for Signature.  
(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 23.—The \$7,000,000,000 war revenue bill was perfected in Congress to-day, and sent to President Wilson for his signature.

## ENGLISHMEN LEAVE FOR DUTY IN FRANCE

Richmond Gives Hearty Godspeed to Nine Young Men on Way to Battle Front.

FLAGS ARE INTERTWINED  
Cheering Throng at Elba Station Sings "America" and "God, Save the King."

The Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes fluttered side by side in comradeship at Elba Station last night, when nearly 2,000 citizens waved farewell to the city's contingent of nine young men who left for Canada to get into uniform for fighting in France. So spontaneous and acclamatory a demonstration has not been in Richmond for many a day as that which began in the quiet room in the City Hall, when Mayor Albion Bode the soldiers an official Godspeed and ended when the train steamed away northward.

The young men who made up the party, all of them residents of the city of long standing, although born in England, are Arthur R. W. Mackreth, Murdo McKay, Fred Soates, I. Roy Guild, George W. Draper, W. H. Day, Percy Thornton, Robert Post and Charles Soames. They went together to New York last night. They will divide there today, six of them going to Montreal to the Two Hundred and Forty-fifth Canadian Grenadiers, and Mackreth, McKay and Post going to Toronto to join another organization. All of them enlisted at the British consulate in Richmond.

By a happy coincidence, the departure was made on April 23, which is designated in the church calendar as St. George's Day, the peculiar day of England's patron saint.

## TEARS IN MANY EYES AS GOOD-BYES ARE SAID

Tears were in many eyes last night in spite of the brave smiles that tried to force them back. Good-byes and God-blessings were repeated over and over to the soldiers individually and collectively while the train waited to depart. A loud group of Britons left behind sang songs of the homeland, unknown to most of the Americans present and led in the hip, hip, hurrahs, in which all joined. The throng yelled lustily, also, to the tune of "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again," "Auld Lang Syne" and "America," part of them on the latter singing "God Save the King" and part, "My Country, This of Thee."

Earlier up the platform away from the car steps the Howitzers' Band was playing, the favorite airs being "Tipperary" and "The Star Spangled Banner." Enveloping the little station and stretching out into Broad Street stood the great body of the crowd with eyes open to the men who had already taken on the atmosphere of heroes. Flags waved everywhere.

Shortly after 1:30 o'clock last night, the young men stood in the Mayor's office in the presence of a handful of their closest friends to receive formally the city's blessing on their arms.

## MAYOR WISHES THEM GODSPEED

"If it be true that 'greater love hath one man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend,' it is equally true that higher patriotism is than any man than that he lay down his life for his country," said Mayor Ainslie. "In this city 140 years ago were uttered the immortal words, 'Life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery.' True men have been answering in the negative every year since then, and now you are on your way to make your own answer."

"I have been asked to express to you the city's respect and admiration for your course and to give you the city's best wishes for good luck. We trust that you may be spared in the midst of the dangers into which you will go, and that all of you may return to your places here in Richmond. But if it is needful that you give up your lives as your comrades are doing on the battle field, we pray that by the sacrifice, countless millions of posterity may reap the blessings of peace and freedom."

## WIFE OF BRITISH CONSUL PINS ON BOLTONVIERES

Going immediately from the City Hall to the automobiles waiting in front, the soldiers were halted a moment on the way while Mrs. Arthur P. Wilmer, the wife of the British consul, pinned on the lapel of each coat a boutonniere of yellow primroses. The primrose is worn in England on April 13, each year in memory of Lord Beaconsfield, the great exponent of imperialism.

With the Howitzers' Band in front playing the Russian national hymn, the procession started up Broad Street toward Elba Station. Each car was decked with British and American flags and a few carried the tricolor of France in addition. First came the future soldiers themselves, in two cars, each of which had its radiator wrapped in a large American flag. Next marched a group of Britons with J. L. Kennedy carrying the British flag, and beside him Howard J. Marshall, carrying the Stars and Stripes. The car of Arthur P. Wilmer, the British consul, came next, and there followed many others bearing friends of those who were leaving. In the rear came a truck bearing United States bluejeans from the recruiting station and a large naval torpedo. There were posters on the truck which said, "These men are serving their country. Are you serving yours?"

# HIGHEST HONORS FOR BRITISHERS

No Fight Over Great Army, Only Method of Raising It

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 23.—With both houses of Congress debating the war army bill to-day, it became more than ever apparent that there is no fight over whether a great army shall be raised, the only question being what strength can be mustered by opponents of the administration's selective draft plan.  
In the Senate, passage of the General Staff bill virtually without change is regarded as certain; on the House side the President's supporters also are confident of success, though the contest there will be bitter. Discussion in the Senate may continue until Saturday, but the House, under a tentative agreement for eighteen hours of general debate, probably will be ready to vote by Thursday.  
Most of the speeches in the House were in favor of the administration plans, after Representative Dent, chairman of the Military Committee, had made an opening statement earnestly supporting the bill as amended by his committee to authorize calls for volunteers, with provision for applying the draft only if the volunteer system fails.

Representative Kahn, of California, ranking Republican member of the committee, appeared in the unique position of spokesman for the President, and leader of the administration forces.  
Representatives McKendree, Illinois; Crago, Pennsylvania; Oliver, Massachusetts; Lunn, New York; Greene, Vermont; Adamson, Georgia, and others spoke for the draft as the only effective method of raising the army needed. Representative Nichols, of South Carolina, joined Chairman Dent in championing the volunteer plan.  
Senators Wadsworth and Weeks vigorously advocating the draft, and Senator Thomas, as strongly opposing it, made the principal addresses in the Senate.  
Chairman Chamberlain, of the Senate committee, said to-night that he might seek unanimous consent on Wednesday for a vote that day or Thursday. He said he did not now expect to endeavor to use the new cloture rule, both because he was not certain he could get the two-thirds necessary to invoke it, and because it might result in more talk than would follow in the normal course.

## BALFOUR GREET'S PRESIDENT WILSON AT WHITE HOUSE

After Short Conference, Declares Trip Already Is Justified.

LATER GUEST OF HONOR AT NOTABLE DINNER

Enthusiasm of People and Cordialities of Officials Take Visitors by Surprise.

NO FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS YET

Groundwork Laid for Beginning of Parleys Immediately on Arrival of French Mission.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 23.—Great Britain's war commissioners spent to-day in the American capital receiving every mark of honor and courtesy within the gift of the government.

Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour, formally presented by Secretary Lansing to President Wilson in the morning, was the guest of honor to-night at the most notable dinner given at the White House in a generation. During the day he was presented to Vice-President Marshall at the Capitol, lunched with Ambassador Jusserand at the French embassy, and received cards or calls from many prominent persons, including former Secretary Bryan.

In the meantime, Lieutenant-General Bridges and other British army officers called on Secretary Baker, Major-General Scott, chief of staff, and War Department officials. Admiral de Chair and his naval aides called on Secretary Daniels, Admiral Besset and other Navy Department officials, and Lord Cunliffe, governor of the Bank of England, called on Secretary McAdoo at the Treasury Department.

The conferences so far, with the enthusiasm that the people of the capital have shown, and the courtesies and cordialities extended by the officials, have taken the British commission completely by surprise. Mr. Balfour, after three quarters of an hour's conversation with President Wilson, remarked enthusiastically that his trip had been justified by that meeting alone.

## ATMOSPHERE OF CONFIDENCE AND CONCORD ESTABLISHED

While no formal negotiations were entered into to-day, the preliminary conferences were stated not to have been wholly perfunctory, but rather to have laid an excellent basis of acquaintance and understanding for the detailed conferences to follow. President Wilson and Mr. Balfour are known to have touched on the broad phases of the situation in such a way as to give each an insight into the other's personality and viewpoint, and to have established an atmosphere of confidence and concord between them.

The official prediction was made that no formal conferences would be begun until the arrival of the French commissioners, expected now in the next few days. Groundwork will be laid as rapidly as possible, so that the moment the French arrive the negotiations may begin in earnest.

The British visitors held an organization meeting at the embassy to-day, and Mr. Balfour plans to spend tomorrow morning mapping out the division of work, and arranging for the proper British and American officials to meet for the task before them. Another score of subordinate British officials are expected shortly.

The British commission announced that its purpose in coming to this country was purely one of co-operation, service and gratitude, and that from now on the direction of the conferences would rest largely with the American government. At the same time, American officials convinced the British by the warmth and cordiality of their reception that this country appreciates England's courtesy in sending such distinguished spokesmen, and is fully dedicated to every possible effort against the common foe.

## BALFOUR TO MAKE SEVERAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Mr. Balfour, it was also stated, will make several public statements during his stay as to the English point of view. Vice-President Marshall invited him to address the Senate, but it is improbable he will appear before Congress unless perhaps with French Minister of Justice Viviani. Arrangements are being made for him to see members of the press on Wednesday. General Bridges will be interviewed to-morrow, and Lord Cunliffe on Thursday.

To-night's dinner at the White House was the climax of an eventful day. Mr. Balfour, British Ambassador Spring-Rice, and all the ranking members of the British commission were invited to meet the President and Mrs. Wilson, the members of the Cabinet, Chief Justice White, the advisory committee of the Council of National Defense, Secretary Tamm and Miss Helen Woodrow Bones, cousin of the President. At the same time, other members of the commission were being entertained at dinner at the Six (Continued on Second Page.)

## FIRST AMERICAN LOAN TO GO TO GREAT BRITAIN

Amount and Other Details Will Be Made Public by McAdoo Within Few Days.

PART OF \$5,000,000,000 ISSUE

Day Crowded With Conferences Between Treasury Head, Reserve Board Officers, Bankers and Representatives of England and France.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 23.—The first American loan to the allied nations will go to Great Britain.

The amount and other details probably will be made public by Secretary McAdoo within a few days. Whatever the sum, the amount will be available out of the proceeds of the \$5,000,000,000 bond issue soon to be offered to the public, of which \$3,000,000,000 will be loaned to the allies.

Announcement to this effect was made to-night at the Treasury Department after a day crowded with conferences between Secretary McAdoo and Federal Reserve Board officers and American bankers and bondholders and official representatives of Great Britain and France.

Another development was the announcement that the size of the first issue of bonds authorized under the \$7,000,000,000 war finance measure will depend largely upon the immediate needs of the allies. Reports as to this have yet to be received in detail.

The entire \$5,000,000,000 of authorized bonds will not be offered in one lump sum, according to present tentative plans, but probably will be called for in several installments or issues. By this course, it is believed that financial disturbances, which might result were the country called upon to absorb the whole issue at once, will be averted.

## DETAILS OF ISSUE TO BE WORKED OUT

Details as to the amount of the first issue, its distribution among the allies, the character and terms of the bonds, methods of disposing of them, and other questions will engage the attention of the Treasury Department and Federal Reserve Board officials during the next few days. The first of these conferences began to-day with the visit of Lord Cunliffe, governor of the Bank of England, upon Secretary McAdoo and Governor Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board. Negotiations will be continued with a view to disposing as rapidly as possible of details, so that the loan issue may be offered without delay.

The French ambassador called upon Secretary McAdoo later in the day, and discussed the terms of the bond issue and the immediate needs of the French government. On behalf of Great Britain, it is expected Lord Cunliffe will place before Secretary McAdoo details as to her most pressing financial problems, and the definite idea is obtained of the extent of the Government's tentative plan. It will be placed before President Wilson and the Cabinet for approval, probably by Tuesday of next week. In reaching the decision to make the first loan to Great Britain, officials have been influenced by the knowledge that Great Britain, as banker for the allies prior to America's entrance into the war, has met the heaviest financial strain imposed upon any of the entente governments.

In making the loan, the United States will accept British bonds bearing 3 1/2 per cent interest as security. These bonds will be deposited in the Treasury here, and the interest payments made upon them—at a rate considerably lower than that which Great Britain has had to pay for recent borrowings—will balance the payments made by the United States to holders of the bonds. Similar methods will be employed in making loans to other allies.

## SKY ALIGHT FOR MILES WITH FLASHES OF GUNS

Battle of Arras, After Smoldering for a Week, Again Bursts Into Flaming Fury.

FIGHTING ON 8-MILE FRONT

Covers Line From South of Vimy Ridge to Point Well Below Croisilles—More Than 1,200 Prisoners Captured—Casualties Are Heavy.

(From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, April 23 (via London).—The battle of Arras, which had been smoldering for a week past, burst into flaming fury again to-day, and is still raging to-night, with some of the heaviest fighting of the war in progress.

The sky is alight for miles with the flashes of guns, with star shells that spread a moonlight paleness over the battle field, and with varicolored rockets, which flash signals to the opposing artillery. The cold east wind carries the echoes of the reverberating cannonade far back of the British lines.

The fighting to-day covered approximately an eight-mile front, from south of Vimy ridge to a point well below Croisilles. At the north end of the attack the British swept over German fixed positions running almost due south from Lens, and captured long sections of German positions in front of the Hindenburg line and a great number of prisoners.

More than 1,200 prisoners were counted in this sector late to-day, and others were still coming in. The largest number of prisoners was from the One Hundred and Forty-first Pomeranian, who surrendered in hundreds after very brief resistance. A battery of field guns also was taken.

Between Gavrelle and Croisilles, the heaviest fighting occurred along both banks of the Scarpe and around Monchy-lez-Preaux, where the British Easter advance had projected a sharp salient into the German lines. Monchy was taken in the first phase of the Arras battle, after three days' fighting, and had been held against desperate counterattacks.

## GERMANS THROW FULL FORCE INTO THEIR RESISTANCE

The Germans always managed to cling to the slopes on either side of the hill on which Monchy-lez-Preaux perched, this being the highest point east of Arras and Vimy, overlooking the great broad eastern plains of Northern France. The Germans to-day were undoubtedly throwing their full force into their resistance along the Scarpe. They had brought up strong reserves to oppose a further British advance, and had thrown in scores of new batteries of artillery.

The fighting about Guemappe, due south of Monchy, was extremely bitter. The attacking British waves "went over" in the half-gray light of dawn, and it was still dark enough to make a fiery spectacle of the barrage which crept ahead of them—a veritable wall of exploding shells. Men who have been over several times under the protection of a barrage are apt to grow a bit overconfident in following the shells, and occasionally get hit by bits flying back, although virtually every shell clearing the way for the infantry bursts forward with a great spray of shrapnel bullets. A modern barrage as set up by the British and French gunners is a terrifying thing to face, and the Germans involuntarily break before it, many of them seeking any dugouts available.

To-day in many parts of the battle front there were no more dugouts to serve as shelters, and the Germans had to stand and fight, with the result that their casualties were higher and the prisoners fewer in those sections of the line.

## BRITISH ADVANCE FROM MERE HALF-TRENCHES

The British advanced in nearly every instance from mere half-trenches, where they had been lying for the past week. (Continued on Second Page.)